LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces the claims originally in this application.

Claim 1 (Original): A method of generating user availability information from call control events within a telephone system, comprising:

receiving call control events from said telephone system, wherein each of said call control events is ascribed one of either an absolute indicator of availability or evidence of availability;

updating a running sum for said user based on said evidence of availability; and

for each of said call control events to which said absolute indicator of availability has been ascribed generating an indication of said user availability based thereon, and otherwise generating said indication of user availability on said running sum.

Claim 2 (Original): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said running sum is updated by a discreet amount in response to call control events characterized by discreet evidence of availability and by incremental amounts in response to call control events characterized by incremental evidence of availability, whereby said indication of user availability is maintained for a predetermined period of time in the absence of further call control events.

Claim 3 (Original) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said running sum is prevented from being updated by said incremental amounts beyond a predetermined default value.

Claim 4 (Original): A method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said indication is 'available' in the event said running sum exceeds a predetermined upper decision level, 'unavailable' in the event said running sum is below a predetermined lower decision level, and 'indeterminate' in the event said running sum is intermediate said predetermined upper and lower decision levels.

Claim 5 (Original): A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein said default value is selected to bias said running sum toward said lower decision level.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A method as claimed in ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 5~~, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

Claim 7 (Original): A method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said absolute indictor of availability is one of either 'available' or 'unavailable'.

Claim 8 (Original): A system for generating user availability information from call control events within a telephone system, comprising:

an Event Queue for receiving and storing call control events from said telephone system, wherein each of said call control events is ascribed one of either an absolute indicator of availability or evidence of availability; and

an Interpretation Engine for accessing said call control events in said Event Queue 10 and for each of said call control events to which said absolute indicator of availability has been ascribed generating an indication of said user availability based thereon, and otherwise generating said indication of user availability on said running sum.

Claim 9 (Original): A system as claimed in claim 8, wherein said Interpretation Engine updates said value by a discreet amount in response to call control events characterized by discreet evidence of availability and by incremental amounts in response to call control events characterized by incremental evidence of availability, whereby said indication of user availability is maintained for a predetermined period of time in the absence of further call control events.

Claim 10 (Original): A system as claimed in claim 9, Interpretation Engine prevents said running sum from being updated by said incremental amounts beyond a predetermined default value.

Claim 11 (Original): A system as claimed in claim 10, wherein said Interpretation Engine generates an indication of 'available' in the event said running

sum exceeds a predetermined upper decision level, 'unavailable' in the event said running sum is below a predetermined lower decision level, and 'indeterminate' in the event said running sum is intermediate said predetermined upper and lower decision levels.

Claim 12 (Original): A system as claimed in claim 11, wherein said default value is selected to bias said running sum toward said lower decision level.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any one of claims~~ claim ~~8 to 12~~, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

Claim 14 (Canceled)

Claim 15 (Canceled)

Claim 16 (New): A method as claimed in claim 2, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

Claim 17 (New) A method as claimed in claim 3, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

Claim 18 (New): A method as claimed in claim 4, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

Claim 19 (New): A method as claimed in claim 5, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

Claim 20 (New): A system as claimed in claim 9, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

Claim 21 (New): A system as claimed in claim 10, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

Claim 22 (New): A system as claimed in claim 11, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.

Claim 23 (New): A system as claimed in claim 12, further including the step of generating an indication of said user location based on location information in said call control events.